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 Approved For Release 2002/08/20 : CIA-RDP78-01617A006100040026-9
 TOP SECRET

29 NOV 1949

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GENERAL

1. Soviet attack "reported" for 1950--The US Consul in Bremen transmits a report from an "old and reliable" contact residing in western Berlin that "war is expected in the spring of 1950." Source asserts that a Soviet army of 600,000 is on the new Polish border, that the USSR is operating two former German rocket bases, and that these rockets have a range of 4800 kilometers (approximately 3,000 miles). The Consul comments that "source is in touch with intimates of Minister President Grotewohl"; he further comments that the foregoing is believed to be a reliable report concerning information which the USSR is now furnishing top officials of the East German Government.

(CIA Comment: CIA estimates that such an attack by the USSR in the spring of 1950 is improbable. This report probably represents an extension of the Soviet propaganda line designed to rally East Germans behind the Soviet puppet government and to frighten those elements of the German population which are supporting the West.)

Document No. 048

NO CHANGE in class. ☐☐ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S (C)

DECLASS. 4 Apr 77

Auth: DIA FILE 2101 13

Date: 15 MAR 1978 BY: [redacted]

State Dept. review completed

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